

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China
No. (2023)5

Embassy of the United States of America in China:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America in China, and would like to state its following position on the Embassy's diplomatically delivering to the Chinese side the litigation documents of Mississippi State v. China and Florida citizens v. Chinese Communist Party:

1. The U.S. Embassy in China has delivered to the Chinese side on its involvement in the Covid-19 related vexatious litigation (case number 1:20-cv-0068-mBM-RPM, 9:20-c-80604-RKA), which has seriously violated China's national sovereignty. The Chinese side expressed firm opposition to this, refused to accept it, and returned it on the spot.
2. These two lawsuits filed by local government or citizens of the United States are purely malicious vexatious litigation, not only without factual basis, but also without legal basis. They clearly violate the principle of sovereign immunity in international law and do not conform to the United States' own "Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act". China does not recognize and will not participate in these two vexatious litigation lawsuits.
3. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19, the Chinese government has adhered to the principle of putting people first and life first, and worked together with other countries to overcome difficulties. The Chinese government has always been in an open, transparent and responsible attitude, actively fulfilling its international obligations, reporting the epidemic information to the World Health Organization and the international community as soon as possible, releasing information such as the gene sequence of COVID-19 as soon as possible, and disclosing the diagnosis and treatment methods and prevention and control plans as soon as possible. The time line of China's anti-epidemic action is clear, and the anti-epidemic efforts and results are obvious to all, which have been widely recognized and highly valued by the international community.
4. According to international law, China, as a sovereign country, enjoys sovereign immunity and is not subject to the jurisdiction of the United States courts. The Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act enacted by the United States in 1976 also establishes the principle of sovereign immunity. Sovereign immunity is an important principle of international law that has been established for a long time and is generally supported by the legislation and judicial practice of various countries and international legislation. According to this principle, without the express waiver of jurisdictional immunity by one country, the other country should not accept and hear the lawsuit with that country as the defendant, nor take any coercive measures against the national property of that country.

The CPC is the ruling party in China, and the Chinese Constitution clearly stipulates the leadership of the CPC. The National Health Commission of China, the Ministry of Emergency Management, the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the Hubei Provincial Government and the Wuhan Municipal Government are the governmental departments and local governments of China. The Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Wuhan Institute of Virology are the public institutions

directly owned by the state. According to international law and American law, the above-mentioned subjects also enjoy immunity.

5. Even according to the domestic laws of the United States, China's epidemic prevention and control policies and measures are not subject to the jurisdiction of the United States courts. These two vexatious litigation lawsuits have no basis in facts and laws. There are also no exceptions such as "commercial acts with direct influence on the United States", "infringement acts in the United States", which are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States courts over foreign countries under the United States Foreign Sovereign Immunity Act.
6. The U.S. government has the responsibility under international law to take effective measures to stop vexatious litigation. In particular, the Mississippi case of vexatious litigation was promoted by the local government of the United States, which has a very bad impact. The United States government should safeguard China's sovereign immunity, let alone shirk its responsibility under the pretext of domestic law.
7. The United States should be clear that if some people with ulterior motives are allowed to use the relevant judicial procedures to vexatiously litigate China, it will damage China-U.S. relations and seriously undermine the efforts of China, the United States and the international community to unite and fight the epidemic. The vexatious litigation is a "legal virus" left by the previous U.S. administration, and the current U.S. administration should control and eliminate it. China requests the United States to attach great importance to China's position and concerns, recognize the seriousness and harmfulness of such vexatious litigation cases, and take all necessary measures to restrain and stop such vexatious litigation, including exerting influence on the Mississippi State Government, urging it to immediately withdraw the vexatious litigation, and at the same time, urging the relevant courts to stop the trial and dismiss the cases. China reserves the right to take reciprocal countermeasures against the United States if the United States allows such vexatious litigation against China to advance.

Assurances of high consideration.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China
X Day X Month, 2023



中华 人 民 共 和 国 外 交 部

部条字〔2023〕5号

美利坚合众国驻华大使馆：

中华人民共和国外交部向美利坚合众国驻华大使馆致意，并谨就大使馆就密西西比州诉中国等案、佛罗里达州公民诉中国共产党等案的诉讼文书向中方进行外交送达事阐述立场如下：

一、美国驻华大使馆向中方就涉新冠肺炎疫情滥诉案（案件号1：20-cv-00168-TBM-RPM、9：20-cv-80604-RKA）进行送达，严重侵犯了中国国家主权，中方对此表示坚决反对，并拒绝接收，当场退回。

二、这两起由美国地方政府或公民提起的诉讼纯粹属恶意滥诉，不仅没有事实依据，也毫无法律基础，明显违反了国际法上的主权豁免原则，也不符合美国自己的《外国主权豁免法》。中方不承认、也不会参加这两起滥诉。

三、新冠肺炎疫情发生以来，中国政府坚持人民至上、生命至上，同世界各国携手合作、共克时艰。中国政府始终本着公开、透明、负责任态度，积极履行国际义务，第

第一时间向世界卫生组织和国际社会通报疫情信息，第一时间发布新冠病毒基因序列等信息，第一时间公布诊疗方案和防控方案。中国抗疫行动时间线清清楚楚，抗疫努力和成效有目共睹，获得国际社会普遍认可和高度评价。

四、根据国际法，中国作为主权国家享有主权豁免，不受美国法院管辖。美国于1976年制定的《外国主权豁免法》同样确立了主权豁免原则。主权豁免是一项久已确立的重要国际法原则，得到各国民立法、司法实践和国际立法的普遍支持，根据这一原则，未经一国明示放弃司法管辖豁免，另一国不得受理和审理以该国为被告的诉讼，也不得对该国国家财产采取任何强制措施。

中国共产党是中国的执政党，中国宪法对中国共产党的领导地位有明确规定。中国国家卫生健康委员会、应急管理部、民政部、湖北省政府、武汉市政府是中国的政府部门和地方政府，中国科学院和武汉病毒研究所是中国国家直接所有的事业单位。根据国际法和美法律，上述主体也都享有豁免。

五、即使根据美国国内法，中国的疫情防控政策和措施也不受美国法院管辖。这两起滥诉在事实和法律上都没有依据，也根本不存在属于美国《外国主权豁免法》规定的美国法院可对外国国家行使管辖权的“和美国有直接影响的商业行为”、“在美国发生的侵权行为”等例外情形。

六、美政府在国际法上负有责任采取有效措施制止滥诉，尤其是密西西比州滥诉案由美国地方政府推进，影响非常恶劣，美政府理应维护中国主权豁免，更不得借口国内法推卸自身责任。

七、美方应该清楚，如果允许一些别有用心的人利用美司法程序对中国国家等进行滥诉，必将损害中美关系，严重破坏中美和国际社会团结抗疫的努力。滥诉是美上届政府遗留下来的“法律病毒”，美现政府理应加以管控和去除。中方要求美方高度重视中方立场和关切，认清此类滥诉案的严重性和危害性，采取一切必要措施约束和制止滥诉，包括对密西西比州政府施加影响，促其立刻撤回滥诉，同时敦促有关法院停止审理并撤销案件。如美方任由针对中国国家等的滥诉推进，中方保留对美方采取对等反制的权利。

顺致崇高的敬意。

